

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00

EUR-25 AEC-11 ISO-00 /049 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 218091

EXCON

EO 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM, US, CZ, GE, HU, PL

SUBJ: US VIDEO TAPE RECORDERS TO EE - IL 1572

REF : OECD PARIS 26365

1. IN REPLY TO THE GERMAN DELEGATIONS QUESTIONS, THE DELEGATE MAY REPLY AFFIRMATIVELY TO THE FIRST QUESTION AS FAR AS HS-100 AND VR 3000 ARE CONCERNED. VR 2000 ALSO CONTAINS TECHNOLOGICAL FEATURES SUPERIOR TO WHAT WE HAVE SEEN PRODUCED IN THE BLOC. HOWEVER, ITS USE FOR THOSE PURPOSES WOULD BE RESTRICTED TO A CERTAIN EXTENT BY ITS DESIGN FOR STUDIO INSTALLATION.

2. IN RESPONSE TO THE SECOND GERMAN QUESTION, IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE AVAILABILITY OF HELICAL SCAN RECORDERS IN PORTABLE VERSIONS HAS INCREASED THROUGHOUT THE WESTERN WORLD RATHER THAN IN THE EAST. THE IMPLICATION IS THAT, UPON RESTUDY OF THE ISSUES AND THE EXPORT CONTROL RECORD, US AUTHORITIES BECAME AWARE THAT THE CONCERN FOR TECHNOLOGY EXTRACTABILITY AND HIGH PROBABILITY OF DIVERSION NEED NO
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LONGER BE THE ABSOLUTE DETERMINING FACTORS IN CONSIDERING

SUCH EXPORTS. RATHER THE LIKELIHOOD OF A CIVIL TELEVISION AUTHORITY SURRENDERING FOR DIVERSIONARY PURPOSES WHAT HAS BECOME BASIC AND VIRTUALLY INDISPENSABLE EQUIPMENT TO TV BROADCASTING IS RECOGNIZED TO HAVE ABATED AN ACCEPTABLE LEVEL.

3. INSPECTION WITHIN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS CANNOT OF COURSE PREVENT DIVERSION OF PORTABLE EQUIPMENT. HOWEVER, THE INTENT OF SUCH INSPECTION TO ASSURE THAT THE CON-SIGNEE ACTUALLY HAS TAKEN POSSESSION OF THE EQUIPMENT AND THAT HE BE MADE DIRECTLY AWARE THAT HE IS TO BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR IT. DIRECT PLACEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY IN THIS MANNER WAS CONSIDERED, IN VIEW OF THE HIGH PROFESSIONAL VALUE OF THE EQUIPMENT TO TV BROADCASTING, TO BE OF SOME VALUE IN CONTRIBUTING TO THE RESERVATION OF THE RECORDERS TO PEACEFUL USES.

4. (FYI - AS DEL IS NO DOUBT AWARE, COMMERCE IS DEVELOPING WHAT WILL HOPEFULLY BE A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION FOR AMPEX AND THE FRG TO THE PROBLEM POSED BY THE FRG HS-100 WHICH WAS LEASED TO THE GDR TV STATION AND RETAINED THERE. END FYI.). RUSH

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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